Solution of Jharkhand problem

1031. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the solution of Jharkhand problem; and

(b) if so, the details of the outcome of the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b) In order to find ways and means of arriving at viable solution to the Jharkhand problem, the Committee on Jharkhand matters consisting of representatives of Jharkhand Movement, representatives from the Central Government, the State Government of Bihar and some experts well-versed with the problems of the region was constituted. The experts have submitted a draft report.

Poor conditions of 'Zuari Bridge' in Goa

1032. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the dilapidated condition of newly constructed Zuari Bridge on the National Highway in Goa which requires immediate repairs and maintenance:

(b) whether Government have appointed any technical committee to investigate the condition of the bridge; if so, what are its findings; and

(c) whether Government propose to build a new parallel bridge in immediate future?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) Some cracks have appeared in the wearing cost of the bridge deck and an estimate for resurfacing has already been sanctioned in consultation with the Central Roads Research Institute. Some other constructional deficiencies have also been reported.

(c) and (d) No, Sir.

Steamer service between Goa and Bombay

1033. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to resume the steamer service between Goa and Bombay in view of withdrawal of I.P.K.F. from Sri Lanka;

(b) whether the steamer services were withdrawn only to be used by I.P.K.F. and not because they were running into losses;

(c) if so, when the sailing of these steamers will be resumed by Shipping Corporation of India; and

(d) whether Government propose to permit some private operators to operate, side by side, in view of heavy traffic on this route?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) The Government is examining the possibility of resumption of this service after return of the two vessels by Ministry of Defence and the vessels undergoing Annual Passenger survey/repairs.

(b) and (c) The Steamer Services were withdrawn to meet the requirements of Ministry of Defence. However, the service was incurring heavy losses and the two vessels a

very old and have outlived their normal life. As the question of resumption of service is under examination, it is not possible to give any date for resumption of the service.

(d) Government have cleared applications from three private parties for acquisition of vessels for operating passenger services between Bombay and Goa.

Expansion of radio mobile telephone services in Delhi

1034. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently floated a tender for the expansion of radio mobile telephone services in Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what is the estimated foreign exchange requirement for the import of equipments for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Tender has been floated for enhancing the capacity of the existing mobile telephone system installed in Delhi from 8 channel to 15 channels. This will involve adding additional equipment. In addition 200 mobile telephone sets have also been asked for.

(c) This is purely an indigenous tender.

Focus Programme by Doordarshan

1035. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 13 Focus programme has been announced by Doordarshan;

(b) whether it is a fact that one of the programme completed has been held up because the programme would have affected the image of one of the State Governments which is supporting the National Front Government; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the programme for State-hood for Delhi is held up since the agency is owned by a business house not being favourable to the National Front Government?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY ATFAIRS (SHRI P. UPENDRA): (a) and (b) Doordarshan have been telecasting four current affairs programmes every week and commissioning of programmes for this is an on-going process. However, programmes which could have infringed upon the guidelines issued by the Election Commission have had to be held back.

(c) No, Sir. The agency has been commissioned to do the programme. They have also been asked to submit further proposals for the future, if any.

Sealing of premises of Punjab and Sind Bank by NDMC

1036. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NDMC has sealed the unautho-